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One of the commendable features is the index, which is prepared for the practical use of the political science student. Its use is not limited, for the lover of history will find that it will point out the important current events of the time. The table of contents also contains helps in this respect. Another very attractive feature is the introduction, which sets out incidents of the time, showing the general trend of thought, the men that made up the delegation, questions of national import and party cleavage. The biographical sketches of the delegates in the appendix leads to important identifications.

On the whole, this book will be very helpful to other bodies similarly engaged. It makes no pretensions either to learning or to originality. For those who have not studied the subject of constitutions in the making, the book offers an excellent introduction to a fund of information which needs to be more widely disseminated.

R. G. SMITH

The Centennial History of Illinois, Volume I. The Illinois Country, 1673-1818. By CLARENCE WALWORTH ALVORD, University of Illinois, Springfield, 1920, pp. 524.

The plan of this series is co-operative, with an individual author for each of the five volumes. Mr. Alvord is the editor-in-chief of the series, a work worthy of the occasion which it commemorates.

The first volume is notable in many ways. We first get a delightful picture of the Illinois country as it looked when the Indians still ruled supreme within its limits. But, as the Illinois country was only a part of the vast Mississippi valley, the author has necessarily taken up the history of the conquest of the whole valley. The Illinois country, however, because of its location, through the long period of exploration and colonization, was the scene of constant struggle and change. Occasionally we are given glimpses of the real love and devotion which existed between the natives and invaders, as in the case of Marquette and LaSalle and many others. Mr. Alvord has traced the progress of the Illinois country from the time of the admirable work of these French missionaries through the periods of French and English occupation, the organization under the ordinance of 1787 until

it was admitted into the Union in 1818, with great ability and power, uniting the different parts and influences into a connected whole. In this very interesting development the author never loses sight of the significance and importance of the Illinois country as the heart of the great Northwest.

The entire book shows that it was written only by the laborious process of examining masses of documents, letters, and source materials of all kinds, which is especially difficult because of the early period with which the book deals.

One of the serious defects of the work is the mention of too many names without adequate characterization of each. Another is the tediousness of detail in recounting the almost constant changes among the Indian tribes. Much of this, perhaps, could not be avoided, and in this detail the author never loses sight of the one big idea, the development of the Illinois country. The book is written in a pleasing style and will interest the scientific historian, as well as the casual reader.

DORA BENTLEY

The Centennial History of Illinois, Volume V. The Modern Commonwealth, 1893-1918. By ERNEST LUDLOW BOGART and JOHN MABRY MATTHEWS, Springfield, 1920, pp. 544.

As the title suggests, this history deals with the economic, political and social development of the people of Illinois during the last quarter of a century, 1893-1918.

Progress has been particularly marked in all lines of economic activity. The growth of population, due largely to political and economic opportunities, has stimulated the growth of wealth. Illinois ranks high as an agricultural state and is the leading corn state in the Union. Education and improvements in farm methods have enabled Illinois to maintain her agricultural position. Chicago is the greatest grain market in the United States and is able to hold her position because of access to water transportation, as well as to the network of railroads. Illinois in 1893 ranked as the third manufacturing state in the Union. The meat packing industry, mining, printing and publishing and agriculture are the five most important industries of Illinois. Labor has been restless at various times in Illinois. The great Pullman strike in 1894 and various other strikes which followed are indica-